

BRICKELLIA MCDONALDII (ASTERACEAE, EUPATORIEAE),
A NEW SPECIES FROM NORTHEASTERN MEXICO.

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The following collection from Peña Nevada in southern Tamaulipas is described as new:

Brickellia mcdonaldii B. L. Turner, sp. nov.

B. grandifolia accedens sed foliis parvioribus crassioribus dense puberulentis punctulis glanduloribus multioribus confertioribus, scapis longioribus, cymis subumbellatis, etc.

Stems terete, dark brown or purplish, densely puberulent. Perennial herb 30-50 cm high. Leaves opposite throughout, or opposite below and alternate above; petioles 2-5 mm long, coarsely puberulent; blades thickened, broadly ovate to deltoid, 2.0-2.5 cm long, 1.5-3.0 cm wide, puberulent and abundantly glandular-punctate on both surfaces, the margins crenate to denticulate. Heads 5-8 in sub-umbellate cymes, borne terminal on nearly naked scapes up to 35 cm long, the ultimate peduncles 10-15 mm long. Involucres campanulate, 12-14 mm long, 8-10 mm wide, 4-5 seriate, unevenly imbricate, subtended by 2-4 loose bracts; bracts linear-lanceolate, the outermost puberulent and non-scarious, the innermost glabrous and scarious. Florets ca 35; corollas ca 7 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, glabrous, tubular, gradually broadening upwards, not, or but slightly, constricted beneath the lobes, the lobes acute, purplish, ca 0.6 mm long. Style branches purple. Achenes ca 4.5 mm long, densely short-hirsute with spreading hairs; pappus of ca 40 fragile densely ciliate bristles, 6-7 mm long.

TYPE: MEXICO. TAMAULIPAS: Sierra Peña Nevada, E side arriba de la Marcella, ca 3000 m, 6 Jul 1985, A. McDonald 1676 (holotype TEX; isotypes to be distributed).

The species apparently belongs to the widespread Brickellia grandiflora but can be readily distinguished by its smaller, thicker, more pubescent leaves and elongate flowering scapes with subumbellate cymes.

It is a pleasure to name this very distinct taxon for its only known collector, Dr. Andrew McDonald, graduate of The University of Texas, Austin and currently working out of the Instituto de Investigaciones Alimentarias of the Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas. He has assembled of late a rather remarkable assemblage of plants from the subalpine regions of Pena Nevada, several of which are new.